

Bukhara During the Political Realities After the Death of Amir Timur

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Abstract

In this article, Sahibgiron Amir Temur created a huge kingdom during his reign and tried to develop Mavarounnah as the core of its central region in every way. The fact that he tried to turn it into the second city after Samarkand, the role of the Bukhara oasis in the struggle for the title among the Timurids was discussed.

Keywords: Min dynasty, successor, testament, Daruga, stronghold, Pirmuhammad Mirza, Sheikh Nuriddin, Shahmalik.

In historical sources and literature, information is recorded that Amir Temur made a will to carry out a military campaign against China (Min Dynasty) and put his grandson Pirmuhammad Mirza on the throne after him, and received the promises of the commanders in this regard. [7:296]. However, subsequent events show that the successors of Amir Temur did not follow this will and were drawn into a vortex of mutual struggles. We can also see that various military commanders took sides with one of the Timurids who were fighting for power for their own interests and escalated the conflicts.

There are army chiefs who follow the will of Amir Temur and express loyalty to the legitimate crown prince, and after the death of Amir Temur, some of the troops stationed in Tashkent expressed their loyalty to Pirmuhammad Mirza. These troops send their loyalty through a letter to Sheikh Nuriddin and Shahmalik, who are considered to be the most skilled commanders of Amir Temur, who first went to Samarkand and then to Bukhara.

However, historical facts show that these military commanders were also drawn into the vortex of mutual struggles and put their own interests above the interests of the state in order to achieve high positions in front of the future ruler. Sheikh Nuriddin and Shahmaliks came to Bukhara, taking with them Mirza Ulughbek and his brother Ibrahim Sultans. They try to use these princes for their own interests, and they should have sent the message from the Tashkent troops to Prince Pirmuhammed, but in March 1405, they kept the chapar in Bukhara [2:23].

As a result, there are enough reasons to believe that these military commanders are also guilty of undermining the integrity of the state. Sheikh Nuriddin and Shahmalik set out for the capital ahead of others in order to enter Samarkand and gain a strong position in the central government.

However, they remain in the village of Aliabad. Samarkand Daruga will not let them in. After Sheikh Nuriddin and the Shohmites failed to enter Samarkand, they took Ulughbek and Ibrahim Mirza and along with Rustam Barlos, who betrayed Khalil Sultan, headed for Bukhara, hoping that it would become a base for them. Because, Rustam Barlos's brother is the governor of Bukhara, and according to the plan, they should join with Pirmuhammad or Shahrugh Mirza. However, the development of events shows that as a result of long hesitation and inaction,

Rustam Barlos betrayed once again in Bukhara, took advantage of the fact that Shohmalik went to Shahrukh for help, revolted, and demanded the treasure before Khalil Sultan [2:25].

Academician VV Bartold suggests that the main goal of Sheikh Nuriddin and Shohmalik's arrival in Bukhara was to oppose Khalil Sultan's assumption of supreme power. He also mentions Rustam Barlos, who joined Sheikh Nuriddin and Shahmaliks, as the head of the vanguard of Khalil Sultan's army. The reason for going to Bukhara is to reach a strong stronghold and support [3:75].

The analysis of historical sources and literature shows that the absence of a ruler in the country for about a month after the death of Amir Temur worries the population. Also, the concern spread to everyone from commoners to princes. During Khalil Sultan's entry into Samarkand, Shahmalik and Sheikh Nuriddin take defensive measures against a possible attack in Bukhara. They brought a part of Amir Temur's treasure to Bukhara. Before them, Rustam Togai Buga Barlos, one of his trusted guards, was sent to Bukhara to prepare the necessary equipment for the opposition against Khalil Sultan. It can be seen that the time of arrival in Bukhara happened on March 6, 1405 AD according to the information of Sharafuddin Ali Yazdi [7:305].

There are enough grounds to conclude that the amirs who were opposed to Khalil Sultan, Sheikh Nuriddin and Shahmalik Amir Temur, tried to gather the forces against Khalil Sultan in Bukhara under the pretext of fulfilling the will of Shahma. They tried to use Ulugbek and Ibrahim Mirzas to give their rebellion a legal tone. A plan for the defense of the city of Bukhara was drawn up, the defense of the city market and its surroundings was to be entrusted to Shahmalik and Ulugbek Mirza, and the fortress walls were to be guarded by Sheikh Nuriddin and Ibrahim Sultans. Also, rebel guards such as Rustam Barlos, his younger brother Hamza, Atalmish and Tokal Qarkara were appointed to guard the gates of the city. According to historian F. Wolfert, Bukhara was one of the major cities during the reign of Amir Temur. It was not inferior to Samarkand in terms of size, the height of the arched wall was 12 meters, and it had two gates on the east and west sides. In 1405, the Timurid princes divided the city into two parts during the defense against Khalil Sultan. The western part and the gates on this side are under the responsibility of Ibrahim Sultan, the territory of the Registan square, and the defense of the Kalon mosque on the eastern side is under the responsibility of Mirzo Ulugbek [5:61].

It can be argued that one of the main reasons for the establishment of defense in Bukhara was the proximity of Khurasan and the hope that Shahrukh Mirza would come to help. It is mentioned in historical sources that Shahmalik went to Shahrukh Mirza from Bukhara to ask for the city's defense plan and the real situation of the princes, as well as the real situation of Ulugbek, Ghiyosiddin Mirza, and Ibrahim Sultans [1:51].

The analysis of data in historical literature allows us to draw conclusions about the fact that the supporters of the opposition against Khalil Sultan did not act boldly, and that mutual trust was insufficient. It can be witnessed that the Frenchman L. Keren also focused on the arrival of Ulugbek and Ibrahim Sultans to Bukhara, the processes of mutual struggle, and the processes of leaving Khurasan in fear of the presence of sedition in Bukhara [6:176].

Academician VV Barthold, there was a lack of mutual trust, competition and disagreements among those who opposed Khalil Sultan. Also, the rivalry and disagreements of Sheikh Nuriddin and Shahmalik caused concern among the officers below them and the residents of Bukhara. Trust in high-ranking military leaders has been lost. As a result, the population of Bukhara revolted under the leadership of Rustam Barlos and his brother Hamza, as they had no confidence in the successful defense and Shahrukh Mirza's coming to their aid. They once again pledge allegiance to Sultan Khalil. Rebel leaders arm civilians. The rebels captured the treasure and Shahrukh Mirza's children Ulughbek and Ibrahim Mirza fled to Khurasan together with Sheikh Nuriddin [4:51].

VVBartold recorded that Shahmalik was coming from Khurasan to Bukhara at this time and met the princes and Sheikh Nuriddin on the way [3:78]. Thus, after the death of Amir Temur in Bukhara, political realities and the initial movement of rebellion will come to an end. After that,

Bukhara began to participate more and more in the political processes of the Timurid kingdom. This, in turn, can be considered to be related to the spread of Naqshbandism among the general population in Mavarounnahr and the growing influence of Bukhara scholars. Because in the struggle for the throne, the support of the scholars of Bukhara became more and more crucial.

We can witness that the influence of Bukhara scholars was decisive in the removal of Khalil Sultan from power, as mentioned in historical sources and literature. For example, A. Ahmedov mentions that Khalil Sultan was unsuccessful in his struggle for the throne as a result of the deterioration of Khalil Sultan's relationship with Muhammad Porso, one of the Naqshbandiya pirs in Bukhara, and the transfer of representatives of this order to Shahrukh Mirza [2:29].

Even VV Barthold emphasizes that the decline of Khalil Sultan's influence in Mavarounnahr was influenced by Naqshbandi scholars, who were in constant contact with Shahrukh Mirza. For example, Muhammad Porso, who was one of the Naqshbandi pirs, after supporting Shahrukh, quickly wrote down information about the defeat of Khalil Sultan [4:61].

In conclusion, we see that after the death of Amir Temur, the struggle for the throne came to the fore, the Timurids were not united around a common goal and idea, and they were drawn into a vortex of mutual struggles. Bukhara became important in mutual struggles, and its influence in the political life of the Timurid period grew more and more. It can be considered that the defeat of the struggle of Ulugbek and Ibrahim Mirza for the central power in Bukhara was the logical end of the initial realities after the death of Amir Temur.

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